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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,010	12/04/2000	Thomas R. Jenkins	15916-277	6595

7590 03/18/2003

Attn: Craig A. Slavin, Esq.
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EXAMINER

DAGOSTINO, SABRINA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3743

18

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

• Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/730,010	JENKINS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sabrina Dagostino	3743	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-13 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14-17, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. We hereby acknowledge applicant's response dated 11/18/02.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 11-13, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Thompson et al. (6454758).

The applicant discloses a probe having an outer member, an interior bore and an inflatable tissue coagulation body supported on the elongate body, having a sheath and a flexible spline, wherein the inflation tissue includes micropores. Thompson et al. discloses A catheter assembly comprises a sheath, which includes a side wall enclosing an interior bore, a distal region, and an opening in the sidewall. The assembly also comprises a bendable catheter tube, which is carried for sliding movement in the interior bore. The catheter tube has a distal portion. The assembly further comprises a coupling, which joins the distal region of the sheath and the distal portion of the catheter tube. The coupling causes bending of the catheter tube outwardly through the opening, in response to sliding movement of the catheter tube within the interior bore toward the distal region of the sheath, generated cellulose membrane materials, typically used for blood oxygenation, dialysis, or ultrafiltration, can be used as the porous material 430. Regenerated

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cellulose is electrically non-conductive; however, the pores of this material (typically having a diameter smaller than about 0.1 μm) allow effective ionic transport in response to the applied RF field. At the same time, the relatively small pores prevent transfer of macromolecules through the material 430, so that pressure driven liquid perfusion is less likely to accompany the ionic transport, unless relatively high pressure conditions develop within the body 428. Porous materials can be used as the porous material 430. Candidate materials having pore sizes larger than regenerated cellulosous material, such as nylon, polycarbonate, polyvinylidene fluoride (PTFE), polyethersulfone, modified acrylic copolymers, and cellulose acetate, are typically used for blood microfiltration and oxygenation. Porous or microporous materials may also be fabricated by weaving a material (such as nylon, polyester, polyethylene, polypropylene, fluorocarbon, fine diameter stainless steel, or other fiber) into a mesh having the desired pore size and porosity. FIG. 55 shows an alternative embodiment of the anchoring branch 276. In this embodiment, the anchoring branch 276 carries an inflatable balloon 346 on its distal end. The balloon 346 is inflated to secure the attachment of the anchoring branch 276 to the targeted vessel or cavity anchor site. The anchoring branch 276 includes a lumen 352 that extends through the balloon 346, having an inlet 348 at the distal end of the balloon 346 and an outlet 350 at the proximal end of the balloon 346. The lumen 352 allows blood to flow through the targeted vessel or cavity anchor site, despite the presence of the anchoring balloon 346. The lumen 306 also allows passage of the guide wire 306 for guiding the anchoring branch 276 into position.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 14-17, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. Claims 21-30 are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sabrina Dagostino whose telephone number is 703-306-3485.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-3pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennett can be reached on 703-308-0101. The fax phone numbers for the

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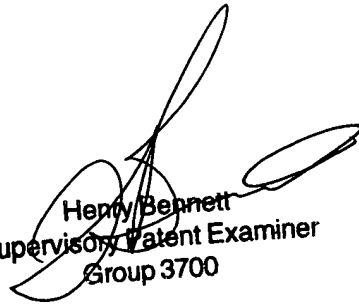
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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9302 for regular communications and 703-872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0861.

Sabrina Dagostino
Examiner
Art Unit 3743

February 11, 2003



Henry Bennett
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700